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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/898,875	07/02/2001	Tsuyoshi Miyano	ALPSP020	2209

22434 7590 01/31/2006

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EXAMINER

WALLERSON, MARK E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/898,875

Applicant(s)

MIYANO, TSUYOSHI

Examiner

Mark E. Wallerson

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

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### **Part III DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Notice to Applicant(s)***

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendments filed on **11/22/2005**.
2. This application has been reconsidered. Claims 1-17 are pending.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brooks et al (Brooks) (U.S. 6,498,655) in view of Izawa et al (Izawa) (U.S. 5,420,406).

With respect to claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, and 17, Brooks discloses a printer comprising a printing mechanism (figure 3) for printing images (column 4, lines 33-42); a sensor suitable for sensing authentication characteristics of a document and outputting a sensor signal corresponding to the sensed characteristics (column 4, lines 55-64); and a controller operable to send authentication data representing the sensor signal to a server (which reads on a central station) (column 2, lines 47-57), invalidating (voiding) the document (column 5, lines 22-65), and sending data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server (which reads on notifying the customer that a replacement ticket is on the way) (column 5, lines 43-65).

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Brooks differs from claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, and 17 in that, although he discloses perforating the document (column 5, lines 22-37) he does not clearly disclose the printer comprises a cutter, which is used to cut the document to invalidate the document.

Izawa discloses a document validation system, wherein when it is determined that the document (or bill) is not genuine, the printer invalidates the document by cutting it (column 7, lines 28-32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Brooks to include a cutter, which is used to cut the document to invalidate the document. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Brooks by the teaching of Izawa in order to prevent the copying of protected documents or items.

With regard to claims 2 and 11, Brooks discloses the printer is coupled to a network and data is sent to the server via the network (column 2, lines 47-57).

With respect to claims 3 and 12, Brooks discloses encoding the data (column 1, lines 12-24).

With regard to claims 6 and 14, Izawa discloses means for allowing a user to feed the document (column 3, lines 53-64).

With respect to claims 8 and 16, Izawa discloses a magnetic sensor (column 3, lines 65-68).

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 11/22/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant submits that *Brooks* does not disclose notification of [the] invalidating of

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the document or sending data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

As stated in the Office Action, the Examiner reads the server on a central station (column 2, lines 47-67). *Brooks* discloses that if validity criteria for the replacement document is not met, an alarm message (which may be a displayed message at the central station or terminal) is generated (column 2, lines 47-57). A document which does not meet a validity criteria is voided and the user at the central station or terminal is notified by way of a displayed message (column 3, lines 7-20)

Still additionally, *Brooks* discloses that AFTER a document or replacement document is voided, an alarm message or control signal is sent to a central device (column 3, lines 41-55). Note that “voiding” can be done by perforating the document (column 5, lines 33-38).

Still additionally, *Brooks* discloses that after a ticket is voided, the user is notified that a replacement ticket is being sent (column 5, lines 39-60). These examples clearly read on “*notification of [the] invalidating of the document or sending data representing completion of the invalidation of the document to the server.*”

### ***Conclusion***

**6. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

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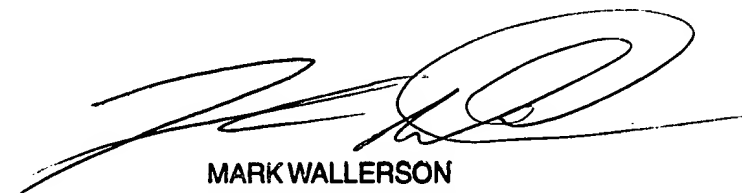
the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark E. Wallerson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7470. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday - 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark E. Wallerson  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2626



MARK WALLERSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER